Appl. No. 09/940,378
Resp. dated May 17, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 22, 2006

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed February 22, 2006, wherein claims 105, 109-112, 116-119, 121 and 122 remain pending.

The Examiner requested that the parent application and co-pending applications be updated. The specification has been amended to update any applications that have matured into patents. No new matter has been added by the specification amendments.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 105, 109-112 and 116-119 are allowed.

Claim 121 has been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 3 and claim 15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,856,835. Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejection. However, in the interest of furthering prosecution, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer. Further as indicated in the Office Action, submission of the Terminal Disclaimer obviates the objection to claim 122.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Gust H. Bardy et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: 5/17/06

David M. Crompton, Reg. No. 36,772

CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC

1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800 Minneapolis, MN 55403-2420

Telephone: (612) 677-9050 Facsimile: (612) 359-9349